the restoration of their original entitlements or storage of edible oils, Government have amended the Edible Oil, Seed and Oils Order, 1977 exempting these organisations from its purview;

(b) if so, whether the exemption has been granted in view of the large scale market intervention operations being undertaken by these bodies;

(c) whether the market price of edible oil had shown a rising tendency in March/April '94;

(d) whether in a bid to curb further increase in the prices, Government have withdrawn the exemption granted to various organisations under the Storage Control Order of 1977; and

(e) to what extent the decision to waive the limit of the stocks of edible oil has helped in checking the rise in price of edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Government have recently amended the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils Storage (Control) Order, 1977, an dexempted certain organisations holding stocks on Government account for undertaking price support operations. In respect of other Cooperatives, the stock limits have been readjusted so as to regulate the stocks of oilseeds/oils held by them on regular basis.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The exemption to certain categories of organisations and readjusted limits in respect of other Cooperatives etc. under Edible Oil Storage (Amendment) Order are expected to have sobering effect on the prices of edible oils. Price variations are dependent on a number of factors like total demand and supply of edible oils in the country, production of edible oil seeds, import of palmolein and stocks of edible oilseeds held by various organisations etc. In view of this it is difficult to quantify the impact of a single factor on the prices of edible oils.

Empowering BIS to check selling of spurious goods

1759. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Standards (BIS) is being empowered to search and sezie any factory or shop suspected of manufacturing or selling spurious goods and if so, details thereof;

(b) whether the BIS has drawn up plans to minimise the marketing of inferior quality products; and

(c) if so, its sailent feature and in what manner it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALLUDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) For investigating cases pertaining to misuse of ISI Mark, the Inspecting Officers of the Bureau of Indian Standards are empowered under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 to search any place, premises or vehicle and to seize any article or thing.

BIS is operating a Certificaiton Marks Scheme under which licences are granted to manufacturers for using ISI Mark. Performance of the licensees of BIS and the quality of their products are monitored under this Scheme. All possible measures are taken to effectively enforce the Scheme.

Losses of Hindustan Vegetables Oil Corporation

1760. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated loss sustained by the Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation (HVOC);